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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/804,651	03/19/2004	Tae Han Jee	060944-0200	7754

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EXAMINER

BINDA, GREGORY JOHN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3679

DATE MAILED: 05/15/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/804,651

Applicant(s)

JEE, TAE HAN

Examiner

Greg Binda

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 March 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-40 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 18-38 and 40 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4,10-17 and 39 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3 and 5-9 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 10 March 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

1. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Election/Restrictions

2. Claims 18-38 & 40 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a nonelected species, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Applicant elected Species II shown in Fig. 15 and timely traversed the restriction (election) requirement in the reply filed on October 14, 2005.
3. This application contains claims 18-38 & 40 drawn to an invention nonelected with traverse. **A complete reply to the final rejection must include cancellation of nonelected claims** or other appropriate action (37 CFR 1.144) See MPEP § 821.01.

Drawings

4. The replacement drawings filed March 10, 2006 are approved.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. Claims 1, 2, 4 & 10-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Rohs et al, US 2001/0046898 (Rohs). Fig. 1 shows a torsional vibration damper comprising: a primary mass 2 adapted to be coupled to an engine crankshaft, the primary mass defining a substantially ring-shaped chamber that is divided into at least two portions; a secondary mass 1 relatively rotatably connected to the primary mass and connectable with a clutch; and a damping unit (see

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the coupling elements 3) for coupling the primary and secondary masses to each other in a rotationally elastic manner. Fig. 1 shows the damping unit comprises: a plurality of elastic members 31 situated in series and disposed one after the other within the divided portions of the ring-shaped chamber; a pair of end guides (see the annotated Fig. 1 attached to the Office action mailed Dec. 7, 2005) slidably disposed within each divided portion of the ring-shaped chamber and supporting outer ends of the elastic members 31; and a wedge shaped friction member slidably disposed between neighboring elastic members, the wedge-shaped friction member comprising an inner wedge and an outer wedge (see the annotated Fig. 1 attached to the Office action mailed Dec. 7, 2005). Fig. 5 shows each wedge is provide with a slanted surface 43. Figs. 7-10 show that when the slanted surfaces contact each other, the inner wedge moves inward and the outer wedge moves outward. Figs. 6-10 show the inner and outer wedges are slidable in contact with one another.

6. Claim 39 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Tamura et al, US 4,559,024. Figs. 1 & 2 show a torsional vibration damper comprising: a primary mass 1-3 adapted to be coupled to an engine crankshaft, the primary mass defining a substantially ring-shaped chamber that is divided into at least two portions; a secondary mass 9 relatively rotatably connected to the primary mass and connectable with a clutch; and a damping unit for coupling the primary and secondary masses to each other in a rotationally elastic manner, wherein the damping unit comprises a plurality of elastic members 17 & 25 having different mean operating radii; and at least one friction "member" disposed between the elastic members, the friction "member" comprising an inner wedge 5 and an outer wedge 11, wherein the inner wedge and the

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outer wedge are in slidable contact with one another (see also col. 1, line 65 through col. 2, line 6).

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 3 & 5-9 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Response to Arguments

8. Applicant's arguments filed March 10, 2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant argues that Rohs fails to show the claimed invention because it allegedly fails to show the inner wedge and outer wedges slidable in contact with one another. However, in Figs. 6-10, Rohs '898 clearly shows the inner and outer wedges are slidable in contact with one another.

Conclusion

9. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after


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the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Greg Binda whose telephone number is (571) 272-7077. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:30 am to 7:00 pm with alternate Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel P. Stodola can be reached on (571) 272-7087. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Greg Binda
Primary Examiner
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